

applicable for all levels of intelligence. It is so unlike a "test" that it reduces the emotional factor to a minimum.

The author found the oligophrenic response described by Rorschach in only 20 of his 69 cases.

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7. Treatment.

Prolonged Narcosis as Therapy in the Psychoses. (*Amer. Journ. Psychiat.*, vol. xii, July, 1932.) Palmer, H. D., and Paine, A. L.

Sodium amytal narcosis was used, intravenously and orally. The aim is to keep the patient in a state of profound sleep for a continuous period of 7 to 10 days, with the exception of two daily periods of half an hour for the purpose of attending to nutrition and evacuation. The drug has been found to be non-toxic, and to offer a wide margin of safety. No patient was made worse by the treatment, and 80.8% can be regarded as improved or recovered. The greatest success may be anticipated in the manic-depressive group. The mechanism of improvement or recovery seems to be psychological rather than biochemical. Small doses of sodium amytal often assist uncommunicative patients to reveal their conflicts; and in many cases the drug facilitates the release of dreams, which furnish an abundance of material on which to base conclusions as to the dynamics of the illness.

M. HAMBLIN SMITH.

8. Criminology.

A Mental Hygiene Study of Juvenile Delinquency. (*Amer. Journ. Psychiat.*, vol. xii, July, 1932.) Levy, J.

This report represents the results obtained during two years' work in a small child-guidance clinic. The non-delinquent children sent to the clinic were used as a control group. The non-delinquent group was equally divided as regards sex; three-fourths of the delinquents were boys. The average age of the delinquents was 12 years, that of the non-delinquents was 14-15. This finding merely shows that criminal tendencies are taken notice of sooner than are other forms of deviation. The relatives of delinquents are likely to be handicapped by social stigmata, while those of non-delinquents show a neurotic taint. The incidence of delinquency increases as one goes down the economic scale. As regards the influence of intelligence, it would appear that the more intelligent child does not engage in delinquency until other methods of obtaining its goal have failed. Misdemeanours are secondary responses in the case of highly intelligent children, undesirable personality reactions having ante-dated delinquency. Questions of discipline and other family reactions are of the utmost importance. The delinquent child solves its sex problems by reacting to a lesser evil, e.g., stealing; the non-delinquent attempts to work through such difficulties by emotional reactions. Sexual perversion